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**STOURPORT-ON-SEVERN URBAN DISTRICT
COUNCIL.**



REPORT

of the

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

and the

SANITARY INSPECTOR.


FOR THE YEAR 1955.

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STOURPORT-ON-SEVERN URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

Chairman : MR. H. E. ROSE.

Vice-Chairman : MR. J. W. BULLOCK.

Members of the Council :

Mr. R. F. Abbotts	Mrs. A. Pratt
Mr. D. A. Evans	Mr. H. Prescott
Mr. G. T. Gregory	Mr. R. G. Ready.
Mr. P. N. Higgs	Mr. E. A. Robinson
Mr. W. A. Coley, J.P.	Mr. A. J. Seabright
Mr. S. James	Mr. G. T. Southall
Mr. E. R. Kemp	

PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS OF THE COUNCIL :

Medical Officer of Health :

DR. R. W. MARKHAM, M.B., B.Ch., D.P.H.

Sanitary Inspector :

MR. H. MADDOCK, M.R.S.I., M.S.I.A.

Public Health Clerk :

MISS D. W. YOUNGJOHN.

ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR 1955.

**To the Chairman and Members of the
Stourport-on-Severn Urban District Council.**

MADAM, CHAIRMAN AND GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to present my Annual Report on the health of the Urban District for the year 1955.

The report is divided into the following sections :—

- “ A ” Statistics and Social Conditions of the Area.
- “ B ” General Provision of Health Services for the Area.
- “ C ” Sanitary Circumstances of the Area.
- “ D ” Housing.
- “ E ” Inspection and Supervision of Food.
- “ F ” Prevalence of, and control over, Infectious Diseases.

Main Occupations of the Area.

The principal Industries comprise the manufacture of carpets, ceramic insulators, blackplate and bright strip, cast iron hinges and holloware, chains for many purposes, wire cables, fans, forges, furnaces, woodwork, valves and valve accessories, an old-fashioned vinegar works, and several firms engaged in the storage and distribution of petrol and oil. In addition there is one of the largest power stations in the Midlands.

SECTION "A."

AREA IN ACRES	....	....	....	....	....	3218
NUMBER OF INHABITED HOUSES (end of 1955) accord-						
ing to Rate Books	....	....	....	....	....	3397
RATEABLE VALUE	....	....	....	....	....	£59,278
SUM REPRESENTED BY ONE PENNY RATE	....	....				£233
REGISTRAR GENERAL'S ESTIMATE OF RESIDENT						
POPULATION (mid 1955)	....	....	....	....	....	10,680

LIVE BIRTHS.

		TOTALS.			
		Male	Female	1955	1954
LEGITIMATE	....	107	74	181	191
ILLEGITIMATE	....	2	—	2	9
		109	74	183	200

THE BIRTH RATE per 1,000 estimated population
for the Urban District was 16.7 18.9

THE BIRTH RATE for England and Wales for the
same period was 15.0 15.2

STILL BIRTHS.

		MALE	FEMALE	1955	1954
LEGITIMATE	....	1	3	4	4
ILLEGITIMATE	....	2	1	3	2
		3	4	7	6

THE STILL BIRTH RATE per 1,000 civilian
population was66 .56

THE STILL BIRTH RATE per 1,000 total live and
still births for England and Wales for the
same period was 23.1 24.0

DEATHS.

		MALE	FEMALE	1955	1954
		60	47	107	100
The death rate per 1,000 estimated population was				10.0	9.35
The Death Rate for the whole of England and Wales per 1,000 population was				11.7	11.3
Maternity Mortality rate for the year per 1,000 births (live and still) was				Nil.	Nil.
Maternity Mortality rate for England and Wales for the same period was				0.65	0.69

Deaths of Infants under 1 year :

			MALE	FEMALE	1955	1954
Legitimate	....	....	3	3	6	10
Illegitimate	....	....	—	—	—	—
			<hr/> 3	<hr/> 3	<hr/> 6	<hr/> 10

Causes of Deaths of Infants under 1 year :—

1 Male	Prematurity and Cerebral injury.
1 Female	Anencephaly.
1 Female	Acute Gastro Enteritis.
1 Female	Myelocoele and Hydrocephalus (Recent Operation).
1 Male	Hydrocephalus, Meningocele and Salmonella typhimurium dysentery.
1 Male	Hydrocephalus, posterior basic meningitis.

The Infant Mortality rate for the year was 32.7 50.0

The Infant Mortality rate for the same period for
England and Wales was 24.9 25.4

Deaths from Cancer (all ages)	....	....	22	12
Deaths from Measles (all ages)	....	....	Nil.	Nil
Deaths from Whooping Cough	....	....	Nil.	Nil.
Deaths from Diarrhoea (under 2 years)	....	....	1	Nil.

Ref. Causes of Death (including Transferable Deaths)

No.		Male	Female.
3.	Syphilitic Disease	1	—
9.	Other Infective and Parasitic Disease	1	—
10.	Malignant Neoplasm, Stomach	3	2
11.	„ „ Lung, Bronchus	—	1
12.	„ „ Breast	—	1
13.	„ „ Uterus	—	1
14.	Other Malignant and Lymphatic Neoplasms	11	3
15.	Leukaemia, Aleukaemia	—	1
16.	Diabetes	—	2
17.	Vascular Lesions of Nervous System	5	5
18.	Coronary Disease, Angina	17	9
19.	Hypertension with Heart Disease	1	1
20.	Other Heart Disease	8	11
21.	Other Circulatory Disease	1	—
24.	Bronchitis	2	—
26.	Ulcer of Stomach and duodenum	1	1
27.	Gastritis, Enteritis and Diarrhoea	—	1
31.	Congenital Malformations	1	2
32.	Other Defined and ill-defined Diseases	4	4
33.	Motor Vehicle Accidents....	2	1
34.	All Other Accidents	1	1
35.	Suicides	1	—

SECTION " B."

GENERAL PROVISIONS OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE AREA.

Laboratory Services.

Producer samples of milk and water are examined by the County Laboratory, Worcester, together with food for chemical analysis. The major part of the bacteriological and pathological work is carried out by the Public Health Laboratory, Worcester Royal Infirmary.

Ambulance Service.

This service is administered by the County Council as Local Health Authority, and based in Kidderminster. An ambulance for infectious cases is stationed at Hayley Green Isolation Hospital (under the control of the Regional Hospital Board).

Hospitals.

All hospitals are administered by the Midland Regional Hospital Board, through their Management Committee. The Kidderminster General Hospital receives the majority of hospital patients from this district. The Lucy Baldwin Maternity Hospital provides the district and surrounding area with maternity beds.

Cases admitted during the year	....	....	463
Women delivered	....	....	354
Infants born alive	....	....	359
Infants deaths	....	....	6
Infants stillborn	....	....	7
Maternal deaths	....	....	Nil.
Cases of Puerperal Pyrexia	....	....	8
Cases of Ophthalmia Neonatorum	....	....	1

Infectious Diseases.

Beds for Infectious Diseases are provided at Hayley Green Isolation Hospital, Halesowen. Two cases from Stourport-on-Severn Urban district were admitted during the year, details of which are as follows :—

Measles	....	—
Scarlet Fever	....	—
Whooping Cough	2	
Chicken Pox	....	—

Tuberculosis.

Out-patient treatment is provided at the Kidderminster Hospital Dispensary where Dr. Cronin attends on Tuesday evenings, Wednesday mornings and Thursday afternoons. In-patients' treatment is arranged at Knightwick Sanatorium and at St. Wulstan's Sanatorium, Malvern. Prevention and after-care remain the responsibility of the Local Health Authority, and the service is administered locally by the After-care Sub-Committee of the Divisional Area Health Committee.

Venereal Diseases.

Treatment and " follow-up " are carried out at the following :—
Kidderminster and District General Hospital.
Worcester Royal Infirmary.
Other neighbouring hospitals as required.

Nursing in the Home.

This service is administered by the Local Health Authority.

There are :—

- (i) Three nurses who deal principally with Midwifery and General Nursing. A car is provided.
- (ii) A whole-time Health Visitor and School Nurse who attends school medical inspections, treats minor ailments at the school clinic, and visits cases of mental defect. She visits infants and children in the home and is responsible for their welfare from 14 days until they attend school at 5 years when she continues to supervise under the school scheme. She attends all Infant Welfare Clinics in this district. A whole-time Health Visitor/School Nurse who supervises the upper part of Burlish Estate and the County Modern School and also attends the Infant Welfare Centre Clinic at the Lucy Baldwin Maternity Hospital.
- (iii) A whole-time Health Visitor who visits cases of Tuberculosis.

Clinics.

Ante-Natal Clinics are held every Tuesday and Thursday afternoons at the Lucy Baldwin Maternity Hospital, in charge of Doctors MacArthur, C. Mackie, Winter, Black, W. T. Mackie and Matron respectively. A clinic is also held by the District Midwives on the second and fourth Monday in each month.

Areley Kings.

An infant Welfare Centre, in charge of Dr. Winter, is held in the Parish Hall, Areley Kings, on the second and fourth Thursday afternoon. Children under five are immunised at these clinics and Vaccination is carried out as required.

SECTION " C."

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

Water Supply.

The majority of dwelling houses in the area are supplied with water from the Council's mains. The source of supply is deep bore belonging to Bewdley Corporation, the storage reservoirs are situated at Mount Pleasant.

Samples taken regularly in conjunction with the borough of Bewdley for chemical analysis and bacteriological examination have given satisfactory results. The water was found to be satisfactory, both in quality and quantity, and there is no plumbo-solvent action.

Mains extensions have been carried out on the Walshes Estate as required by the new Council houses constructed during the year.

Drainage and Sewerage.

Disposal of sewer at the Oldington Disposal Works used jointly with the Boroughs of Kidderminster and Bewdley, has continued satisfactorily.

Further sewage extensions were carried out on the Walshes Estate to cope with the new housing construction and at Astley Cross to enable further closet conversion schemes to be carried out.

SECTION "D."

Housing.

69 Houses were completed by the Council during the year and 40 by private enterprise.

Number of Council Houses in Urban District	....	958
Number of hutted dwellings requisitioned by Council		192
Number of houses requisitioned by Council	....	Nil.
Number of Applicants for Council Houses	....	312
(Plus 192 at Burlish).		
Number of above applicants who are living in lodgings		174
Approximate total number of persons represented by application list	....	950

With regard to houses considered unfit for human habitation in the district, no closing orders were made.

Number of families rehoused from condemned properties, 3.

Radburn Houses.

It is most unfortunate that the Council should have been encouraged by the Ministry concerned to undertake the construction of this type of house. They are similar to the old court-type of house especially in the lack of proper space and privacy for the individual housing units.

Burlish Estate.

Steady progress has been made with the Council's programme for the clearance of the poorer type bungalows and 44 have been demolished. Three bungalows were allotted to the County Council for occupation by families who would otherwise require part III accommodation, namely accommodation in a County Council Institution. The majority of the families remaining on this estate are Polish in origin, though many are now naturalised British subjects.

Titton and Walshes Farm Areas.

Titton Shack Area.

There has still been no change on the policy decided upon in this area.

Walshes Farm Camping Site.

Following the provision of a piped water supply, chemical closets and dust bins, the conditions at this site are considerably improved.

Houseboats.

During the past year no nuisance has arisen from the occupation of the houseboats in the Canal Basins.

SECTION " E."

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

Ice Cream Manufacture.

The number of manufacturers of Ice Cream on the Register is 5, and the number of Retailers of Ice Cream is 40. Regular samples are being taken from all the Manufacturers and these have proved satisfactory.

Food Poisoning.

No outbreaks occurred during the year.

Adulteration of Foods.

Mr. Spencer, Chief Inspector of Weights and Measures, Worcestershire County Council, reports that 78 milk samples, 105 miscellaneous samples and 31 drug samples were taken for analysis during the year.

Milk samples reported against	....	5
Miscellaneous samples reported		
against	....	2
Drug samples reported against	....	4

SECTION " F."

PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

Diphtheria Immunisation.

The number of children immunised for the first time during the year, either at Clinics, Schools, or by General Practitioners, was as follows :—

1. Pre-School Children	....	....	155
2. School Children	....	....	18
3. Reinforcing Doses	....	....	155
			<hr/>
			328
			<hr/>

General.

Cases of Infectious Diseases notified during the year are shown in the following table :—

Diseases	Total Cases Notified.	Cases admitted to Hospital.	Total Deaths
Measles	46	—	—
Whooping Cough	62	2	—
Erysipelas	2	—	—
Scarlet Fever	16	—	—
Puerperal Pyrexia	5	—	—
Acute Primary Pneumonia	1	—	—
Tuberculosis	8	—	—
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	1	—	—
Dysentery	1	—	—
Food Poisoning	1	—	—

Tuberculosis.

The following table gives particulars of new cases of Tuberculosis and deaths from the disease in the area during the year.

Age Periods	New Cases.				Deaths			
	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
5—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
15—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
25—	1	3	—	—	—	—	—	—
35—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
45—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
55—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
65 & over	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
Total	4	4	—	—	1	—	—	—

Mass Radiography Service.

The Dudley Mobile Unit visited this area in the Autumn of 1955 and 2,317 persons were examined.

B.C.G. Inoculations.

The County Council Scheme for the testing and inoculation of susceptible children in their thirteenth year was commenced at the senior school. Children in this age group (from Stourport and surrounding areas) were tested—322 were given inoculations subsequently. It is hoped that all parents will take advantage of this scheme and give their children the extra immunity to Tuberculosis during the years of greatest susceptibility on leaving school.

Conclusion.

The sanitary services provided by the Council have, in the main, proved satisfactory during the year. Progress in house building has continued, though it will be seen from my earlier remarks that this is of a type considered to be retrograde.

As will be seen from the Sanitary Inspector's report, the problem of finding a suitable tipping site for refuse disposal is becoming really urgent as the site at present in use is rapidly becoming full and has caused some nuisance to the occupants of the premises in the vicinity, despite all efforts to control the tip in a satisfactory manner.

I should like to thank the Chairman, all Members of the Council, and the Council's Staff for their help and co-operation during the year.

I am, Lady and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

R. W. MARKHAM.

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE SANITARY INSPECTOR FOR THE YEAR 1955.

To the Chairman and Members of the
Stourport-on-Severn Urban District Council.

LADY AND GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to present my Annual Report for the
year 1955.

PUBLIC CLEANSING.

Refuse Collection.

Every effort is made to collect house refuse once in seven days, but there were a number of occasions during the year when this was rendered impossible due mainly to the following reasons :—

- (i) Shortage of Staff through sickness and absenteeism
(1,840 man hours were lost through this cause).
- (ii) The use of defective and unsuitable containers for refuse.
- (iii) Mis-use of bins by householders.

We have little or no control over the first item which was the primary cause of the delay, and the ambiguity of the Public Health Act 1936, regarding the responsibility for the provision of dust-bins is the primary cause of item 2.

The third cause gives rise to many complaints from the collectors. Their job is not pleasant given the best working conditions, but many people make their lot doubly unpleasant by depositing waste food and other vegetable matter in the bin, which rapidly decays in the warmer weather, giving rise to offensive smells, particularly when the contents are emptied, and forming a perfect breeding ground for flies.

Others are under the impression that the refuse bin is the ideal place for disposing of garden rubbish and stones, with the result that at times bins are found which are so heavily laden with stones etc., as to require the efforts of two or three men to empty them.

One can only assume that the persons responsible do not realise that a little care in the use of the dust-bin would result in a considerable saving in cost, and a more regular collection service.

The two Shelvoke and Drewry vehicles employed on this work continue to give excellent service.

Trade Refuse.

Trade refuse is collected weekly on request and the following charges are made :—

One bin emptied weekly	Free.
All other bins	.... 20/- per half-year per bin.

A number of tradespeople prefer to deliver their own trade refuse to the tip, and this has lightened the load on collection, and enabled more attention to be paid to the rapidly expanding housing estates.

Refuse Disposal.

The site adjoining Hartlebury Common continued to be used for the disposal of all refuse. However, this tip is rapidly becoming

filled, and a search for a new site continued throughout the year, with, I regret to say, little success. After many sites had been explored, we were offered the use of a sand quarry on the main Kidderminster-Stourport Road and at last it appeared that we had found an ideal site which would cope with the needs of Stourport for many years and on which the tipping of refuse would cause nuisance to no-one.

However, events have since proved that we were unduly optimistic, as it appears that the planning authority consider it of greater importance to prevent any moulding sand left in the quarry from being covered, than to allow this Council to use the site as a tip. One could understand this point of view if the supply of moulding sand in the area was limited, but in fact it appears from available evidence that the position is exactly the opposite.

At the time of writing this report, negotiations with the various interested bodies were continuing.

The control of flies on the present tip, during the warm summer proved a very difficult problem, and in spite of the fact that insecticidal tip dressing was sprayed on to the working face twice daily, frequent complaints were received from the occupants of houses, and a factory in the vicinity.

Salvage Collection and Disposal.

A weekly collection of waste paper and cardboard is made from almost all shops and factories in the district. There continued a steady demand for the material throughout the year, but in December there were signs that the market was deteriorating, and all paper mills were carrying considerable stock.

Waste paper from houses is collected along with the house refuse, and a bonus payment scheme is in operation for the collectors. There is, however, still too much waste paper and other salvageable material mixed up with the ordinary house refuse, and because of this there is greater risk of fire at the point of disposal, and controlled tipping is much more difficult. Surely little extra effort is needed to save the paper, tie it in a bundle, and place it on top of the bin instead of inside.

The market for rags and certain types of scrap metal remained fairly steady through the year, but there was no sale for salvaged glass bottles.

DETAILS OF SALVAGED MATERIALS SOLD DURING 1955.

				<i>Weight</i>			<i>Amount Realised.</i>		
				<i>Tons</i>	<i>cwts.</i>	<i>qrs.</i>	£	s.	d.
Waste Paper	....	....	....	110	18	1	908	10	7
Scrap Metal	....	....	....	5	12	1	17	15	0
Rags	....	....	....	—	—	—	6	16	3
Total							£933	1	10

Cleansing of Pail Closets and Cesspools.

This branch of the Public Health Services is carried out by the Dennis Gulley/Cesspool emptier. Pail closets are emptied weekly, and cesspools are emptied on request, free of charge.

It is hoped that by early 1956 almost all pail closets in the Astley Cross area, will have been converted to the water carriage system of drainage, so reducing the weekly pail closet round. The hardcore, however, in the Lower Heath area and outlying parts of Wilden will remain, and I see no liklihood of any reduction here in the near future.

The revenue from the loan of the Cesspool Emptier to adjoining authorities, and other persons outside the district amounted to £67, and the revenue from chargeable work in the district was £19 0s. 0d.

Outdoor Staff.

- 2 Refuse Freighter Driver/Loaders.
- 1 Driver (Salvage, etc.)
- 2 Tip Men (one part-time).
- 1 Salvage Baler.
- 1 Gulley/Cesspool Emptier Driver.
- 1 Gulley/Cesspool Emptier Attendant.

Rodent Control.

This work was carried out satisfactorily throughout the year by the Council's Rodent Operative.

An infestation in the new Radburn houses under construction proved difficult to deal with, particularly as the workmen employed on the site are inclined to leave the remains of their snacks in all sorts of places.

SUMMARY OF WORK CARRIED OUT DURING 1955.

<i>Type of Premises.</i>	<i>Number of Treatments.</i>		
Local Authority's Property	13
Business Premises	27
Dwelling Houses....	654

Public Conveniences.

At each week-end throughout the Summer, crowds flocked to Stourport and the familiar queues were once again in evidence at the Public Lavatories in Bridge Street and on the Crown Hotel Car Park.

By the end of the year however, permission had been given for the erection of a further block of Toilets on the Severn Meadows and it is hoped that these will be ready for use by May or June, 1956.

I regret to have to report that once again extensive damage has been caused to the doors at Bridge Street by some person or persons unknown, but if it is possible to find the responsible persons and pefer a charge, I hope that on conviction the fine imposed will be sufficient to deter any would-be offenders in the future.

INVESTIGATION OF AIR POLLUTION.

Since October, 1953, Lead Peroxide instruments have been in use at various points in the district for measuring the amount of Sulphur Dioxide in the atmosphere. The following are details of the results for 1955. The results for the year 1954 are also shown for comparison.

Amounts expressed as Milligrams of SO₃ per day per 100 sq. cm. of Lead Peroxide.

	1. Wyre Mill Pumping Station. 1955 1954		2. Baldwin Road. 1955 1954		3. Worcester Rd. Pump- ing Station. 1955 1954		4. Titton Sands Farm. 1955 1954	
January ....	.91	1.67	1.11	1.96	1.43	2.30	.97	1.70
February	1.50	1.28	1.50	1.97	1.95	2.15	1.54	1.61
March	1.11	.95	1.28	1.13	1.61	1.08	.88	1.03
April ....	.69	.61	.85	.18	.82	1.26	.55	.66
May ....	.73	.81	.94	1.51	.69	1.06	.89	1.05
June ....	.42	.55	.49	.57	.55	.64	.33	.28
July ....	.73	.51	.61	.33	1.07	.78	.68	.65
August ....	.34	.59	.41	.72	.59	.44	.39	.52
September	—	.38	—	.43	—	.13	—	.43
October ....	.78	.71	.75	.88	.93	.81	.70	.29
November ....	.92	2.08	1.44	2.72	1.65	2.00	.91	1.35
December ....	.71	.82	.97	.86	.94	.74	.46	.59
Averages ....	.80	.91	.94	1.11	1.11	1.12	.75	.85

During the Winter months on certain days, the town is still covered by a grey fall of smoke and water vapour from the B.E.A. Power Station and the dispersal of fog is considerably retarded because of this.

The worst emission of dark smoke comes from the boiler plant installed in the original station constructed in 1927. When the demand for electricity is at its peak, these boilers are probably forced beyond their intended capacity. The replacement of this obsolete plant by modern boiler and ancillary plant appears to be the only way of abating this nuisance.

The much publicised Clean Air Bill did not manage to reach the statute book, and one wonders what will eventually emerge after the Bill has passed its way through both Houses of Parliament.

Thirty-three smoke observations were made during the year and visits made to factories where heavy emissions occurred.

Housing.

The financial inducements offered by the Housing Rent and Repairs Act, 1954, have proved too small to encourage owners to put their properties into a good state of repair.

There are many houses in the area which have not been painted for over twenty years, with the result that extensive and costly repairs are now required which could easily have been avoided.

More and more houses are falling into a state of disrepair and under prevailing conditions, it appears that the slum clearance problem will be with us for a long time yet.

SUMMARY OF REPAIRS EFFECTED FOLLOWING PRELIMINARY STATUTORY ACTION.

Structural Repairs	....	....	....	....	4
Roof Repairs	....	....	....	....	14
Eavesgutters Repaired or Renewed	....				6
Rainwater Pipes Repaired or Renewed	....				3
Windows and Doors Repaired	....	....			7
Floors Repaired	....	....	....	....	1
Firegrates Renewed	....	....	....	....	1
Rooms Disinfected after infectious diseases					4
W.C. Pans Renewed	....	....	....	....	2
W.C. Fittings Repaired or Renewed	....				8
W.C. Structures Repaired	....	....	....		2
Sewers or Drains Unblocked and Cleansed					37
Drains Repaired	....	....	....	....	2
Houses Disinfested	....	....	....	....	4
New Dustbins Provided (by Council on request)	....	....	....	....	37
Accumulation Removed	3

HOUSES INCAPABLE OF REPAIR AT REASONABLE EXPENSE.

Houses Demolished	1
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Food Hygiene.

The new regulations governing the handling of food during manufacture, storage and sale came into force on the 1st January, 1956, and although they represent a considerable weakening of the original draft proposals, it is hoped that they will help local authorities' inspectors still further improve the standard of hygiene in the food trades

Meat Supplies.

By far the greater quantity of butchers' meat sold in this town is slaughtered outside the district, and is brought in by road transport vehicles, some of which leave a lot to be desired as far as their suitability for such work is concerned.

Two slaughterhouses operate in this district and the inspection of meat after slaughter still entails many visits out of office hours, particularly on Sundays.

FOOD.

Meat.

Throughout the year every effort was made to carry out a 100 per cent inspection of animals slaughtered in this area.

This work entails regular Sunday and evening visits to one Slaughterhouse, and whilst it is appreciated that the small butcher only has a limited amount of time available for slaughtering, if he is to carry out the work himself, I feel that it is not entirely necessary to slaughter animals on the Sabbath day.

The following are details of the number of animals inspected.

	Cattle Exclud- ing Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs	Horses
Number inspected 105	Nil.	9	478	434	Nil	
<i>All diseases except Tuberculosis and Cysticerci</i> Whole Carcases Con- demned Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	1	—	
Carcases of which some part or organ was con- demned 17	Nil	Nil	14	11	Nil	
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than tuber- culosis and cysticerci 16.2	—	—	2.9	2.76	—	
Tuberculosis only : Whole carcasses con- demned Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	
Carcases of which some part or organ was con- demned 6	Nil	Nil	Nil	5	Nil	
Percentage of the number inspected affected with tuberculosis 5.7	—	—	—	1.15	—	
Cysticerocis : Carcases of which some part or organ was con- demned Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	
Carcases submitted to treat- ment by refrigeration —	—	—	—	—	—	
Generalised and totally condemned —	—	—	—	—	—	

2. OTHER FOOD

Forty-four visits were made to premises to inspect food thought to be unfit for human consumption. The following articles were condemned :—

Canned	Meat	....	....	47	Tins
„	Soup	....	....	6	„
„	Fruits	....	....	158	„
„	Vegetables	....	....	234	„
„	Milk	....	....	75	„
„	Fish	....	....	26	„
„	Cream	....	....	5	„
„	Fruit Juices	....	....	4	„
„	Meat or Fish Paste	....	....	9	„
„	Steak and Kidney Pud-	....	....	1	„
	ding	....	....	2	„
„	Spaghetti	....	....	64	lbs.
Cooked	Ham	....	....	18	„
Corned	Beef	....	....	5½	„
Cooked	Ox Tongue	....	....	4	„
Pork	Sausage	....	....	5	„
Beef	Sausage	....	....	51	„
Bacon		....	....	39	„
Beef		....	....	7	„
Butter		....	....	20	„
Cheese		....	....	12	„
Semolina		....	....	8	Pkts.
Marzipan		....	....	12	jars.
Chicken	Spread	....	....	2	jars.
Pickles		....	....	1	jar.
Jam		....	....	2	bottles
Sauce		....	....

3. MILK SUPPLY.

Number of Registered Distributors 7

Licences Granted :—

Dealer Licences :

Tuberculin Tested	....	....	5
Pasteurised	....	....	6
Sterilised	....	....	6

Supplementary Licences :

Tuberculin Tested	....	....	3
Pasteurised	....	....	4
Sterilised	....	....	3

4. ICE CREAM.

Number of Manufacturers on	
Register	5
Number of retailers on Register	40

DETAILS OF SAMPLES SUBMITTED FOR BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATION.

Provisional Grade.

Total Samples	....	I	II	III	IV.
4	....	4	Nil	Nil	Nil

The number of persons retailing ice cream continues to increase, and one can only assume that the amount of ice cream consumed on Sundays in the Summer must be very great indeed. It is unfortunate, however, that many of the people still insist on disposing of the wrapper or carton on the footpath, road or riverside, in spite of the provision of litter baskets.

At the present time only three people manufacture ice cream and samples taken from these persons proved satisfactory.

5. FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, SECTION 14.

Registration of premises used for the manufacture of preserved foods :—

Number on Register 6

Four of the premises registered were actually used for the purpose during the year. It was not found necessary to take any action for contravention of the law relating to this type of premises.

Number of Inspections Made 4

Slaughterhouses.

There are two slaughterhouses in use in this district, one in Lombard Street and one in Manor Road.

A complaint was received regarding the storage of manure at the last mentioned premises, but otherwise there was no cause for complaint. The Government plans to centralise slaughtering were not announced, and it appears that the present system will be in operation for a number of years hence.

PET ANIMALS ACT, 1951 :

There are two premises licensed under the above Act to keep a Pet shop.

Canal Boats.

The canals still remain unused by commercial traffic and consequently no inspections were carried out.

Infectious Diseases.

Number of enquiries made 6

Number of Rooms Disinfected.... 2

Disinfectant is provided free on request to the occupier of any house where a case of infectious disease has occurred.

Offensive Trades.

There are no offensive trades carried out in the area, but we still get visits from the rag and bone dealer who is prepared to trade goldfish or chickens for rags to persons of any age with complete disregard for the provisions of Section 154 of the Public Health Act, 1936.

WATER SUPPLY.

Private Supplies.

These consist mainly of shallow wells in the Lower Heath and Severn Side areas. The number was reduced, however, by the provision of a piped supply to seven properties in the Lower Heath area. In addition, two caravan sites which previously relied on shallow wells were provided with a piped supply.

Mains Supply.

Two samples were submitted to bacteriological and chemical examination and were found to be satisfactory.

NOTICES SERVED.

Preliminary Notices. :

Public Health Act, 1936	....	53
Housing Act, 1936	....	4
Food and Drugs Act	....	2
Factories Act, 1937	....	1
		—
		60
		—

Statutory Notices :

Public Health Act, 1936, Sect. 93	10
Prevention of Damage by Pests, Act, Sect. 4	....
	1
	—
	11
	—

FACTORIES ACT, 1937.

Total Number of Factories on Register	....54
Factories with Mechanical Power	....50
Factories with no Mechanical Power	.... 4

The following is a summary of inspections made during the year with details of defects found and remedied :—

Total number of Inspections39
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<i>Sanitary Conveniences</i>	<i>Defects Found</i>	<i>Defects Remedied.</i>
(a) Insufficient	—	—
(b) Unsuitable or defective	1	—
(c) Not separate for sexes	—	—
(d) Other offences	—	—

SECTION 34—Two certificates as to means of escape in case of fire were issued.

OUTWORKERS. There is one person in the town employed on the manufacture of gloves.

Register of Factories (31st December, 1955).

Blacksmith	....	....	....	....	1
Builders Yard	....	....	....	....	3
Battery Reconstruction	....	....	....	....	1
Builders	....	....	....	....	2
Chaff Cutters	....	....	....	....	1
Carpet Manufacturers	....	....	....	....	1
Coach Builders	....	....	....	....	1
Civil Engineers	....	....	....	....	2
Engineers	....	....	....	....	1
Food Manufacturers	....	....	....	....	10
Furnace Makers	....	....	....	....	1
Gravel Pits	....	....	....	....	2
Gas Works	....	....	....	....	1
Iron Foundry	....	....	....	....	1
Manufacture of Enamel Ware	....	....	....	....	1
Manufacture of Chains	....	....	....	....	1
Milliner	....	....	....	....	1
Manufacture of Wood Articles	....	....	....	....	1
Manufacture of Ceramic Insulators	....	....	....	....	1
Manufacture of Electrical Components	....	....	....	....	2
Making of Lock Gates	....	....	....	....	1
Metal Works	....	....	....	....	2
Motor and Motor Cycle Engineers	....	....	....	....	4
Power Plant	....	....	....	....	1
Petrol Depots	....	....	....	....	2
Repair of Canal Boats	....	....	....	....	1
Steel Rolling Mills	....	....	....	....	1
Tannery....	....	....	....	....	1
Timber Merchants	....	....	....	....	4
Vinegar Works	....	....	....	....	1
Wire Manufacturers	....	....	....	....	1
					—
					54
					—

SUMMARY OF INSPECTIONS AND VISITS, 1955.

Housing Consolidated Regulations—			
No. of houses recorded	....	....	14
Housing Act—Inspection on complaint			23
Housing Act—Routine	....	....	46
Public Health Act—on complaint	....		92
Public Health Act—Routine	....	....	142
Re-Visits—Housing Act	....	....	74
Re-Visits—Public Health Act	....	....	89
Re-Visits—Others	....	....	10
Work in Progress	....	....	24
Infectious Disease Enquiries	....	....	6
Food Shops—General	....	....	55
Food Preparation Premises	....	....	4
Bakehouses	....	....	2
Restaurant and Canteen Kitchens	....		10
Licensed Premises	....	....	3
Ice-Cream Dealers	....	....	14
Ice-Cream Manufacturers	....	....	4
Itinerant Vendors	....	....	21
Fish Friers	....	....	4
Dairies	....	....	1
Shop (Shops Act)	....	....	5
Factories—Mechanical Power	....	....	37
Factories—No Mechanical Power	....		2
Caravan Sites	....	....	15
Controlled Tip	....	....	73
Piggeries	....	....	4
Public Conveniences	....	....	180
Survey for Infestation (P.D.P.A. 1949)			
Business Premises	....	....	26
Survey for Infestation (P.D.P.A. 1949)			
Dwellingshouses	....	....	53
Survey for Infestation (P.D.P.A. 1949)			
Agricultural Property	....	....	1
Workplaces	....	....	1
Smoke Observations	....	....	33
Miscellaneous Inspections	....	....	347
Pet Shops	....	....	8
Visits to Inspect Food	....	....	44
Slaughterhouses—Meat Inspection	....		185
Slaughterhouses—Routine	....	....	29
			<hr/> 1,681 <hr/>

I am,

Madam Chairman and Gentlemen,

Your Obedient Servant,

H. MADDOCK.

